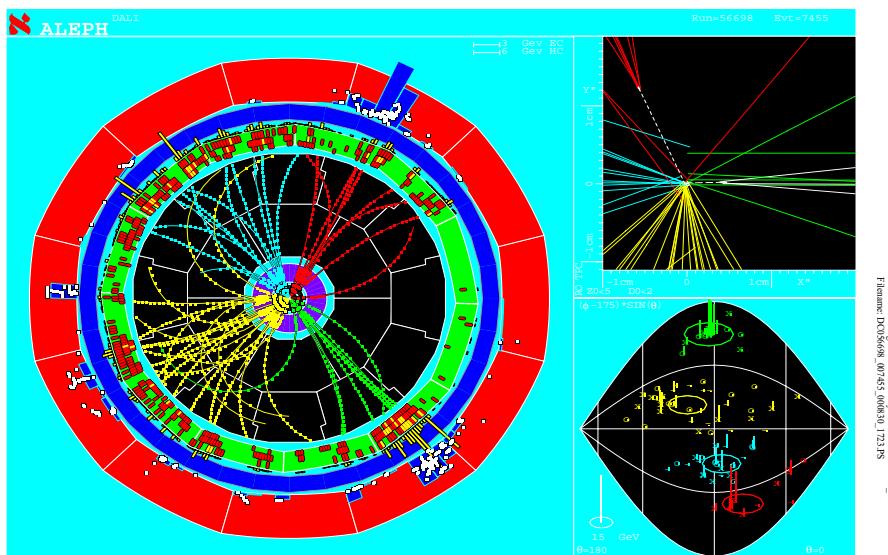


Particle Physics

Michaelmas Term 2009
Prof. Mark Thomson



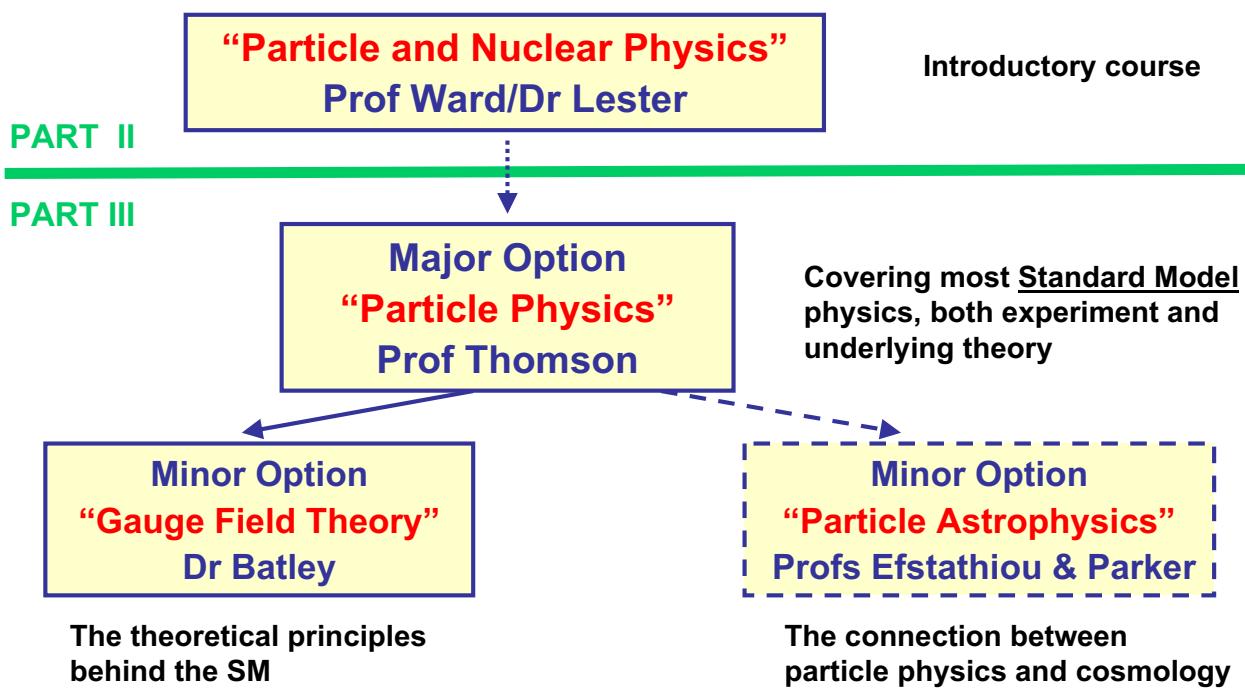
Handout 1 : Introduction

Prof. M.A. Thomson

Michaelmas 2009

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Cambridge Particle Physics Courses



Course Synopsis

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Handout | 1: Introduction, Decay Rates and Cross Sections |
| Handout | 2: The Dirac Equation and Spin |
| Handout | 3: Interaction by Particle Exchange |
| Handout | 4: Electron – Positron Annihilation |
| Handout | 5: Electron – Proton Scattering |
| Handout | 6: Deep Inelastic Scattering |
| Handout | 7: Symmetries and the Quark Model |
| Handout | 8: QCD and Colour |
| Handout | 9: V-A and the Weak Interaction |
| Handout | 10: Leptonic Weak Interactions |
| Handout | 11: Neutrinos and Neutrino Oscillations |
| Handout | 12: The CKM Matrix and CP Violation |
| Handout | 13: Electroweak Unification and the W and Z Bosons |
| Handout | 14: Tests of the Standard Model |
| Handout | 15: The Higgs Boson and Beyond |

- ★ Will concentrate on the modern view of particle physics with the emphasis on how theoretical concepts relate to recent experimental measurements
- ★ Aim: by the end of the course you should have a good understanding of both aspects of particle physics

Preliminaries

Web-page: www.hep.phy.cam.ac.uk/~thomson/partIIIparticles/

- All course material, old exam questions, corrections, interesting links etc.
- Detailed answers will posted after the supervisions (password protected)

Format of Lectures/Handouts:

- I will derive almost all results from first principles (only a few exceptions).
- In places will include some additional theoretical background in **non-examinable** appendices at the end of that particular handout.
- Please let me know of any typos: thomson@hep.phy.cam.ac.uk

Books:

- ★ The handouts are fairly complete, however there a number of decent books:
 - “Particle Physics”, Martin and Shaw (Wiley): fairly basic but good.
 - “Introductory High Energy Physics”, Perkins (Cambridge): slightly below level of the course but well written.
 - “Introduction to Elementary Physics”, Griffiths (Wiley): about right level but doesn’t cover the more recent material.
 - “Quarks and Leptons”, Halzen & Martin (Wiley): good graduate level textbook (slightly above level of this course).



Before we start in earnest, a few words on units/notation and a very brief “Part II refresher”...

Preliminaries: Natural Units

- S.I. UNITS: kg m s are a natural choice for “everyday” objects
e.g. $M(\text{Prescott}) \sim 250 \text{ kg}$
- not very natural in particle physics
- instead use **Natural Units** based on the language of particle physics
 - From Quantum Mechanics - the unit of action : \hbar
 - From relativity - the speed of light: c
 - From Particle Physics - unit of energy: **GeV** (1 GeV ~ proton rest mass energy)

★ Units become (i.e. correct dimensions):

Energy	GeV	Time	$(\text{GeV}/\hbar)^{-1}$
Momentum	GeV/c	Length	$(\text{GeV}/\hbar c)^{-1}$
Mass	GeV/c^2	Area	$(\text{GeV}/\hbar c)^{-2}$

★ Simplify algebra by setting: $\hbar = c = 1$

• Now all quantities expressed in powers of **GeV**

Energy	GeV	Time	GeV^{-1}	To convert back to S.I. units, need to restore missing factors of \hbar and c
Momentum	GeV	Length	GeV^{-1}	
Mass	GeV	Area	GeV^{-2}	

Preliminaries: Heaviside-Lorentz Units

• Electron charge defined by Force equation: $F = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$

• In Heaviside-Lorentz units set $\epsilon_0 = 1$

and $F \rightarrow \frac{e^2}{4\pi r^2}$ NOW: electric charge has dimensions $[FL^2]^{\frac{1}{2}} = [EL]^{\frac{1}{2}} = [\hbar c]^{\frac{1}{2}}$

• Since $c = (\epsilon_0 \mu_0)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 \rightarrow \mu_0 = 1$

$$\hbar = c = \epsilon_0 = \mu_0 = 1$$



Unless otherwise stated, **Natural Units** are used throughout these handouts, $E^2 = p^2 + m^2$, $\vec{p} = \vec{k}$, etc.

Preliminaries: Relativity and 4-Vector Notation

- Will use 4-vector notation with p^0 as the time-like component, e.g.

$$p^\mu = \{E, \vec{p}\} = \{E, p_x, p_y, p_z\} \quad (\text{contravariant})$$

$$p_\mu = g_{\mu\nu} p^\mu = \{E, -\vec{p}\} = \{E, -p_x, -p_y, -p_z\} \quad (\text{covariant})$$

with

$$g_{\mu\nu} = g^{\mu\nu} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- In particle physics, usually deal with relativistic particles. Require all calculations to be Lorentz Invariant. L.I. quantities formed from 4-vector scalar products, e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} p^\mu p_\mu &= E^2 - p^2 = m^2 && \text{Invariant mass} \\ x^\mu p_\mu &= Et - \vec{p} \cdot \vec{r} && \text{Phase} \end{aligned}$$

- A few words on NOTATION

Four vectors written as either: p^μ or p

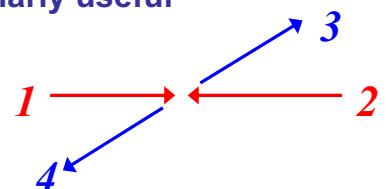
Four vector scalar product: $p^\mu q_\mu$ or $p \cdot q$

Three vectors written as: \vec{p}

Quantities evaluated in the centre of mass frame: \vec{p}^* , p^* etc.

Example: Mandelstam s, t and u

- ★ In particle scattering/annihilation there are three particularly useful Lorentz Invariant quantities: **s, t and u**
- ★ Consider the scattering process $1 + 2 \rightarrow 3 + 4$
- Define three kinematic variables: **s, t and u** from the following four vector scalar products



$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2, \quad t = (p_1 - p_3)^2, \quad u = (p_1 - p_4)^2$$

Note: $s + t + u = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + m_3^2 + m_4^2$ (Question 1)

- ★ e.g. Centre-of-mass energy, **s**:

$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = (E_1 + E_2)^2 - (\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2)^2$$

- This is a scalar product of two four-vectors → Lorentz Invariant
- Since this is a L.I. quantity, can evaluate in any frame. Choose the most convenient, i.e. the centre-of-mass frame:

$$p_1^* = (E_1^*, \vec{p}_1^*) \quad p_2 = (E_2^*, -\vec{p}_2^*)$$

$$\rightarrow s = (E_1^* + E_2^*)^2$$

- ★ Hence \sqrt{s} is the total energy of collision in the centre-of-mass frame

Review of The Standard Model

Particle Physics is the study of:

- ★ **MATTER:** the fundamental constituents of the universe
 - the elementary particles
- ★ **FORCE:** the fundamental forces of nature, i.e. the interactions between the elementary particles

Try to categorise the **PARTICLES** and **FORCES** in as simple and fundamental manner possible

- ★ Current understanding embodied in the **STANDARD MODEL**:
 - Forces between particles due to exchange of particles
 - Consistent with all current experimental data !
 - But it is just a “model” with many unpredicted parameters, e.g. particle masses.
 - As such it is not the ultimate theory (if such a thing exists), there are many mysteries.

Matter in the Standard Model

- ★ In the Standard Model the fundamental “matter” is described by **point-like spin-1/2 fermions**

	LEPTONS			QUARKS		
		q	m/GeV		q	m/GeV
First Generation	e^-	-1	0.0005	d	-1/3	0.3
	ν_1	0	≈ 0	u	+2/3	0.3
Second Generation	μ^-	-1	0.106	s	-1/3	0.5
	ν_2	0	≈ 0	c	+2/3	1.5
Third Generation	τ^-	-1	1.77	b	-1/3	4.5
	ν_3	0	≈ 0	t	+2/3	175

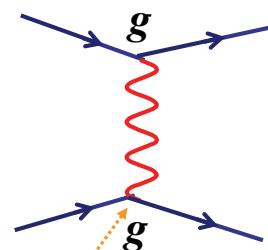
The masses quoted for the quarks are the “constituent masses”, i.e. the effective masses for quarks confined in a bound state

- In the SM there are **three generations** – the particles in each generation are copies of each other differing only in mass. (not understood why three).
- The neutrinos are much lighter than all other particles (e.g. ν_1 has $m < 3 \text{ eV}$)
 - we now know that neutrinos have non-zero mass (don’t understand why so small)

Forces in the Standard Model

★ Forces mediated by the exchange of spin-1 Gauge Bosons

Force	Boson(s)	J^P	m/GeV
EM (QED)	Photon γ	1^-	0
Weak	W^\pm / Z	1^-	80 / 91
Strong (QCD)	8 Gluons g	1^-	0
Gravity (?)	Graviton?	2^+	0



- Fundamental interaction strength is given by charge g .
- Related to the dimensionless coupling “constant” α

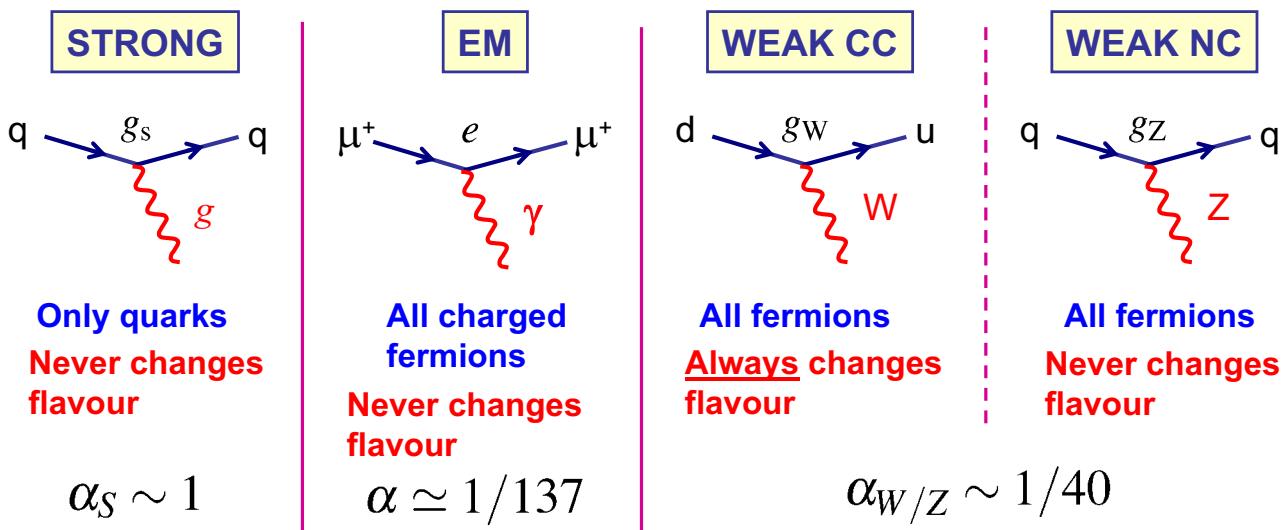
e.g. QED $g_{em} = e = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha\epsilon_0\hbar c}$

★ In Natural Units $g = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha}$ (both g and α are dimensionless, but g contains a “hidden” $\hbar c$)

★ Convenient to express couplings in terms of α which, being genuinely dimensionless does not depend on the system of units (this is not true for the numerical value for e)

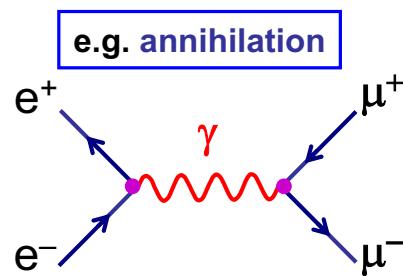
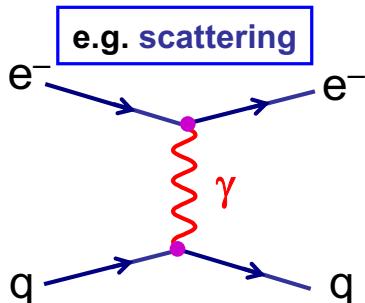
Standard Model Vertices

- ★ Interaction of gauge bosons with fermions described by SM vertices
- ★ Properties of the gauge bosons and nature of the interaction between the bosons and fermions determine the properties of the interaction



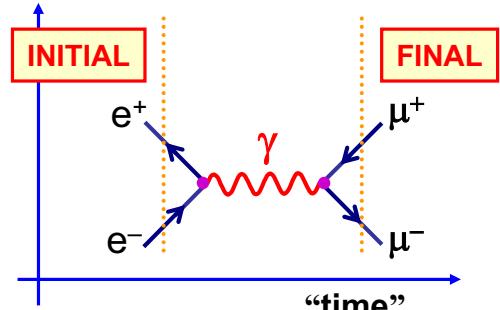
Feynman Diagrams

- ★ Particle interactions described in terms of Feynman diagrams



★ IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER:

- “time” runs from left – right, **only** in sense that:
 - ♦ LHS of diagram is initial state
 - ♦ RHS of diagram is final state
 - ♦ Middle is “how it happened”
- anti-particle arrows in –ve “time” direction
- Energy, momentum, angular momentum, etc. conserved at **all interaction vertices**
- All intermediate particles are “virtual”
i.e. $E^2 \neq |\vec{p}|^2 + m^2$ (handout 3)



From Feynman diagrams to Physics

Particle Physics = Precision Physics

- ★ Particle physics is about building fundamental theories and testing their predictions against precise experimental data
- Dealing with fundamental particles and can make **very precise theoretical predictions** – not complicated by dealing with many-body systems
 - Many beautiful experimental measurements
 - precise theoretical predictions challenged by precise measurements
 - For all its flaws, the Standard Model describes all experimental data !
This is a **(the?) remarkable achievement of late 20th century physics**.

Requires understanding of theory and experimental data

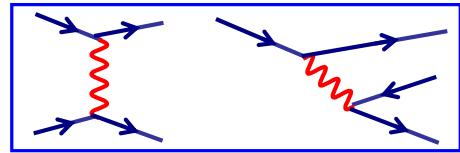
- ★ Part II : Feynman diagrams mainly used to **describe how particles interact**
- ★ Part III:
 - will use Feynman diagrams and associated Feynman rules to **perform calculations for many processes**
 - hopefully gain a fairly deep understanding of the Standard Model and how it explains all current data

Before we can start, need calculations for:

- Interaction cross sections;
- Particle decay rates;

Cross Sections and Decay Rates

- In particle physics we are mainly concerned with particle interactions and decays, i.e. transitions between states
 - these are the experimental observables of particle physics
- Calculate transition rates from Fermi's Golden Rule



$$\Gamma_{fi} = 2\pi |T_{fi}|^2 \rho(E_f)$$

Γ_{fi} is number of transitions per unit time from initial state $|i\rangle$ to final state $|f\rangle$ – not Lorentz Invariant!

T_{fi} is Transition Matrix Element

$$T_{fi} = \langle f | \hat{H} | i \rangle + \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\langle f | \hat{H} | j \rangle \langle j | \hat{H} | i \rangle}{E_i - E_j} + \dots$$

\hat{H} is the perturbing Hamiltonian

$\rho(E_f)$ is density of final states

★ Rates depend on MATRIX ELEMENT and DENSITY OF STATES

the ME contains the fundamental particle physics

just kinematics

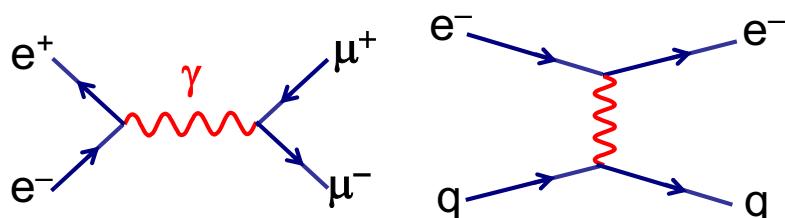
The first five lectures

★ Aiming towards a proper calculation of decay and scattering processes

Will concentrate on:

- $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- $e^- q \rightarrow e^- q$

($e^- q \rightarrow e^- q$ to probe proton structure)



▲ Need relativistic calculations of particle decay rates and cross sections:

$$\sigma = \frac{|M_{fi}|^2}{\text{flux}} \times (\text{phase space})$$

▲ Need relativistic treatment of spin-half particles:

Dirac Equation

▲ Need relativistic calculation of interaction Matrix Element:

Interaction by particle exchange and Feynman rules

+ and a few mathematical tricks along, e.g. the Dirac Delta Function

Particle Decay Rates

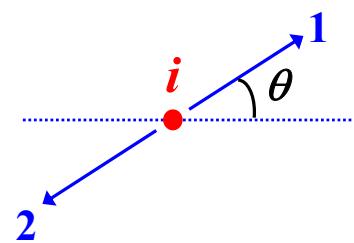
- Consider the two-body decay

$$i \rightarrow 1 + 2$$

- Want to calculate the decay rate in first order perturbation theory using plane-wave descriptions of the particles (Born approximation):

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_1 &= Ne^{i(\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r} - Et)} \\ &= Ne^{-ip \cdot x}\end{aligned} \quad (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} = \vec{p} \cdot \vec{r} \text{ as } \hbar = 1)$$

where N is the normalisation and $p \cdot x = p^\mu x_\mu$



For decay rate calculation need to know:

- Wave-function normalisation
- Transition matrix element from perturbation theory
- Expression for the density of states

All in a Lorentz Invariant form

★ First consider wave-function normalisation

- Previously (e.g. part II) have used a non-relativistic formulation
- Non-relativistic: normalised to one particle in a cube of side a

$$\int \psi \psi^* dV = N^2 = 1/a^3$$

Non-relativistic Phase Space (revision)

- Apply boundary conditions ($\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}$):
- Wave-function vanishing at box boundaries
→ quantised particle momenta:

$$p_x = \frac{2\pi n_x}{a}; p_y = \frac{2\pi n_y}{a}; p_z = \frac{2\pi n_z}{a}$$

- Volume of single state in momentum space:

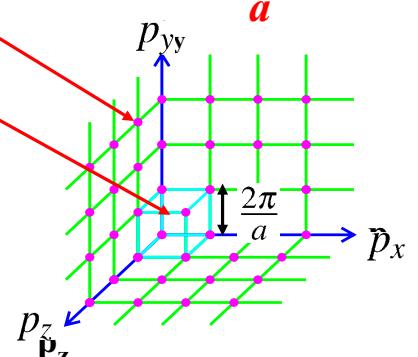
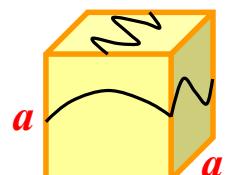
$$\left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^3 = \frac{(2\pi)^3}{V}$$

- Normalising to one particle/unit volume gives number of states in element: $d^3 \vec{p} = dp_x dp_y dp_z$

$$dn = \frac{d^3 \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \times \frac{1}{V} = \frac{d^3 \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^3}$$

- Therefore density of states in Golden rule:

$$\rho(E_f) = \left| \frac{dn}{dE} \right|_{E_f} = \left| \frac{dn}{d|\vec{p}|} \frac{d|\vec{p}|}{dE} \right|_{E_f}$$



with
 $p = \beta E$

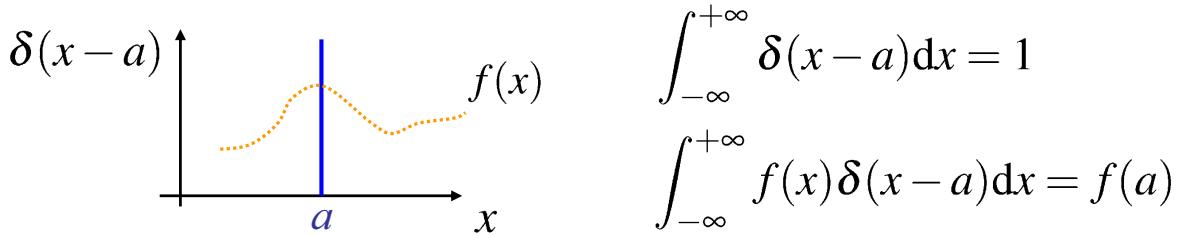
- Integrating over an elemental shell in momentum-space gives

$$(d^3 \vec{p} = 4\pi p^2 dp)$$

$$\rho(E_f) = \frac{4\pi p^2}{(2\pi)^3} \times \beta$$

Dirac δ Function

- In the relativistic formulation of decay rates and cross sections we will make use of the Dirac δ function: “infinitely narrow spike of unit area”



- Any function with the above properties can represent $\delta(x)$

e.g. $\delta(x) = \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$ (an infinitesimally narrow Gaussian)

- In relativistic quantum mechanics delta functions prove extremely useful for integrals over phase space, e.g. in the decay $a \rightarrow 1 + 2$

$\int \dots \delta(E_a - E_1 - E_2) dE$ and $\int \dots \delta^3(\vec{p}_a - \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2) d^3 \vec{p}$
express energy and momentum conservation

- We will soon need an expression for the delta function of a function $\delta(f(x))$

- Start from the definition of a delta function

$$\int_{y_1}^{y_2} \delta(y) dy = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_1 < 0 < y_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Now express in terms of $y = f(x)$ where $f(x_0) = 0$ and then change variables

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} \delta(f(x)) \frac{df}{dx} dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x_0 < x_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

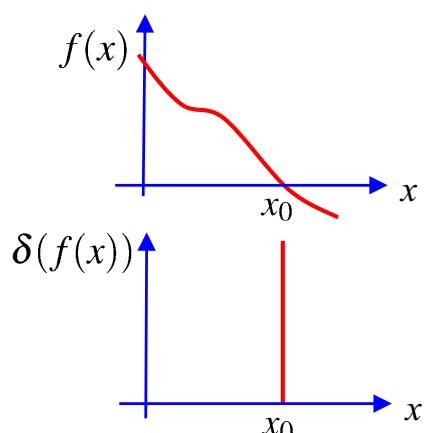
- From properties of the delta function (i.e. here only non-zero at x_0)

$$\left| \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_0} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \delta(f(x)) dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 < x_0 < x_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Rearranging and expressing the RHS as a delta function

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} \delta(f(x)) dx = \frac{1}{|df/dx|_{x_0}} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \delta(x - x_0) dx$$

➡ $\delta(f(x)) = \left| \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_0}^{-1} \delta(x - x_0)$ (1)



The Golden Rule revisited

$$\Gamma_{fi} = 2\pi |T_{fi}|^2 \rho(E_f)$$

- Rewrite the expression for density of states using a delta-function

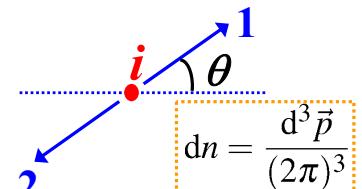
$$\rho(E_f) = \left| \frac{dn}{dE} \right|_{E_f} = \int \frac{dn}{dE} \delta(E - E_i) dE \quad \text{since } E_f = E_i$$

Note : integrating over all final state energies but energy conservation now taken into account explicitly by delta function

- Hence the golden rule becomes: $\Gamma_{fi} = 2\pi \int |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_i - E) dn$
the integral is over all “allowed” final states of any energy

- For dn in a two-body decay, only need to consider one particle : mom. conservation fixes the other

$$\Gamma_{fi} = 2\pi \int |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_i - E_1 - E_2) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3}$$

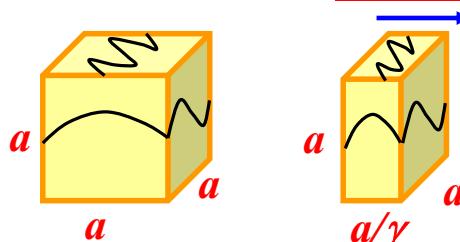


- However, can include momentum conservation explicitly by integrating over the momenta of both particles and using another δ -fn

$$\Gamma_{fi} = (2\pi)^4 \underbrace{\int |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_i - E_1 - E_2)}_{\text{Energy cons.}} \underbrace{\delta^3(\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2)}_{\text{Mom. cons.}} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_2}{(2\pi)^3} \underbrace{\frac{d^3 \vec{p}_i}{(2\pi)^3}}_{\text{Density of states}}$$

Lorentz Invariant Phase Space

- In non-relativistic QM normalise to one particle/unit volume: $\int \psi^* \psi dV = 1$
- When considering relativistic effects, volume contracts by $\gamma = E/m$



- Particle density therefore increases by $\gamma = E/m$
 - ★ Conclude that a relativistic invariant wave-function normalisation needs to be proportional to E particles per unit volume
- Usual convention: **Normalise to $2E$ particles/unit volume** $\int \psi'^* \psi' dV = 2E$
- Previously used ψ normalised to 1 particle per unit volume $\int \psi^* \psi dV = 1$
- Hence $\psi' = (2E)^{1/2} \psi$ is normalised to $2E$ per unit volume
- Define Lorentz Invariant Matrix Element**, M_{fi} , in terms of the wave-functions normalised to $2E$ particles per unit volume

$$M_{fi} = \langle \psi'_1 \cdot \psi'_2 \dots | \hat{H} | \dots \psi'_{n-1} \psi'_n \rangle = (2E_1 \cdot 2E_2 \cdot 2E_3 \dots 2E_n)^{1/2} T_{fi}$$

- For the two body decay

$$i \rightarrow 1 + 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} M_{fi} &= \langle \psi'_1 \psi'_2 | \hat{H}' | \psi'_i \rangle \\ &= (2E_i \cdot 2E_1 \cdot 2E_2)^{1/2} \langle \psi_1 \psi_2 | \hat{H}' | \psi_i \rangle \\ &= (2E_i \cdot 2E_1 \cdot 2E_2)^{1/2} T_{fi} \end{aligned}$$

★ Now expressing T_{fi} in terms of M_{fi} gives

$$\Gamma_{fi} = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{2E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_i - E_1 - E_2) \delta^3(\vec{p}_a - \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2}$$

Note:

- M_{fi} uses relativistically normalised wave-functions. It is Lorentz Invariant
- $\frac{d^3 \vec{p}}{(2\pi)^3 2E}$ is the Lorentz Invariant Phase Space for each final state particle
the factor of $2E$ arises from the wave-function normalisation
(prove this in Question 2)
- This form of Γ_{fi} is simply a rearrangement of the original equation
but the integral is now frame independent (i.e. L.I.)
- Γ_{fi} is inversely proportional to E_a , the energy of the decaying particle. This is exactly what one would expect from time dilation ($E_a = \gamma m$).
- Energy and momentum conservation in the delta functions

Decay Rate Calculations

$$\Gamma_{fi} = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{2E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_i - E_1 - E_2) \delta^3(\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{(2\pi)^3 2E_1} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_2}{(2\pi)^3 2E_2}$$

★ Because the integral is Lorentz invariant (i.e. frame independent) it can be evaluated in any frame we choose. The C.o.M. frame is most convenient

- In the C.o.M. frame $E_i = m_i$ and $\vec{p}_i = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\Gamma_{fi} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(m_i - E_1 - E_2) \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{2E_1} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_2}{2E_2}$$

- Integrating over \vec{p}_2 using the δ -function:

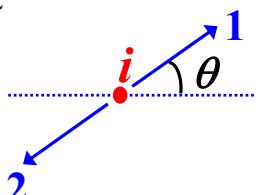
$$\Rightarrow \Gamma_{fi} = \frac{1}{8\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(m_i - E_1 - E_2) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_1}{4E_1 E_2}$$

now $E_2^2 = (m_2^2 + |\vec{p}_1|^2)$ since the δ -function imposes $\vec{p}_2 = -\vec{p}_1$

- Writing $d^3 \vec{p}_1 = p_1^2 dp_1 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = p_1^2 dp_1 d\Omega$

For convenience, here
 $|\vec{p}_1|$ is written as p_1

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma_{fi} = \frac{1}{32\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta \left(m_i - \sqrt{m_1^2 + p_1^2} - \sqrt{m_2^2 + p_1^2} \right) \frac{p_1^2 dp_1 d\Omega}{E_1 E_2}$$

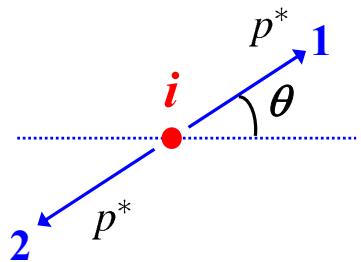


• Which can be written in the form $\Gamma_{fi} = \frac{1}{32\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 g(p_1) \delta(f(p_1)) dp_1 d\Omega$ (2)

where $g(p_1) = p_1^2 / (E_1 E_2) = p_1^2 (m_1^2 + p_1^2)^{-1/2} (m_2^2 + p_1^2)^{-1/2}$

and $f(p_1) = m_i - (m_1^2 + p_1^2)^{1/2} - (m_2^2 + p_1^2)^{1/2}$

- Note:
- $\delta(f(p_1))$ imposes energy conservation.
 - $f(p_1) = 0$ determines the C.o.M momenta of the two decay products
i.e. $f(p_1) = 0$ for $p_1 = p^*$



★ Eq. (2) can be integrated using the property of δ -function derived earlier (eq. (1))

$$\int g(p_1) \delta(f(p_1)) dp_1 = \frac{1}{|df/dp_1|_{p^*}} \int g(p_1) \delta(p_1 - p^*) dp_1 = \frac{g(p^*)}{|df/dp_1|_{p^*}}$$

where p^* is the value for which $f(p^*) = 0$

• All that remains is to evaluate df/dp_1

$$\frac{df}{dp_1} = -\frac{p_1}{(m_1^2 + p_1^2)^{1/2}} - \frac{p_1}{(m_2^2 + p_1^2)^{1/2}} = -\frac{p_1}{E_1} - \frac{p_1}{E_2} = -p_1 \frac{E_1 + E_2}{E_1 E_2}$$

giving:
$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{fi} &= \frac{1}{32\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \left| \frac{E_1 E_2}{p_1(E_1 + E_2)} \frac{p_1^2}{E_1 E_2} \right|_{p_1=p^*} d\Omega \\ &= \frac{1}{32\pi^2 E_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \left| \frac{p_1}{E_1 + E_2} \right|_{p_1=p^*} d\Omega \end{aligned}$$

- But from $f(p_1) = 0$, i.e. energy conservation: $E_1 + E_2 = m_i$

$$\Gamma_{fi} = \frac{|\vec{p}^*|}{32\pi^2 E_i m_i} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega$$

In the particle's rest frame $E_i = m_i$

→
$$\frac{1}{\tau} = \Gamma = \frac{|\vec{p}^*|}{32\pi^2 m_i^2} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega$$
 (3)

VALID FOR ALL TWO-BODY DECAYS !

- p^* can be obtained from $f(p_1) = 0$

$$(m_1^2 + p^{*2})^{1/2} + (m_2^2 + p^{*2})^{1/2} = m_i \quad (\text{Question 3})$$

→
$$p^* = \frac{1}{2m_i} \sqrt{[(m_i^2 - (m_1 + m_2)^2) [m_i^2 - (m_1 - m_2)^2]]} \quad (\text{now try Questions 4 \& 5})$$

Cross section definition

$$\sigma = \frac{\text{no of interactions per unit time/per target}}{\text{incident flux}}$$

Flux = number of incident particles/unit area/unit time

- The “cross section”, σ , can be thought of as the effective cross-sectional area of the target particles for the interaction to occur.
- In general this has nothing to do with the physical size of the target although there are exceptions, e.g. neutron absorption



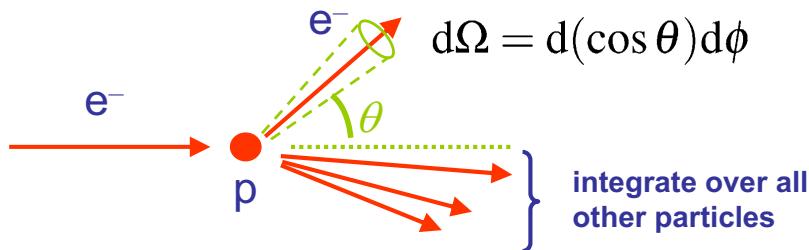
here σ is the projective area of nucleus

Differential Cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{no of particles per sec/per target into } d\Omega}{\text{incident flux}}$$

or generally

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$$



with

$$\sigma = \int \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} d\Omega$$

Prof. M.A. Thomson

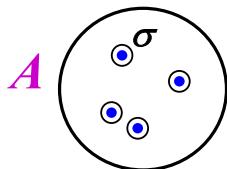
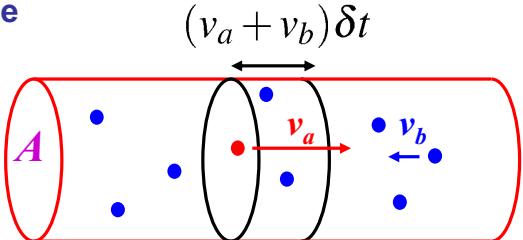
Michaelmas 2009

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example

- Consider a single particle of type **a** with velocity, v_a , traversing a region of area **A** containing n_b particles of type **b** per unit volume

In time δt a particle of type **a** traverses region containing $n_b(v_a + v_b)A\delta t$ particles of type **b**



★ Interaction probability obtained from effective cross-sectional area occupied by the $n_b(v_a + v_b)A\delta t$ particles of type **b**

$$\text{Interaction Probability} = \frac{n_b(v_a + v_b)A\delta t \sigma}{A} = n_b v \delta t \sigma \quad [v = v_a + v_b]$$



Rate per particle of type **a** = $n_b v \sigma$

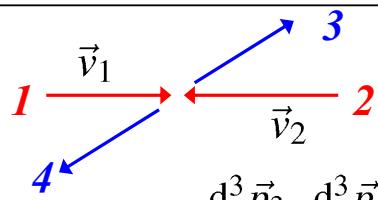
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider volume } V, \text{ total reaction rate} &= (n_b v \sigma) \cdot (n_a V) = (n_b V) (n_a v) \sigma \\ &= N_b \phi_a \sigma \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{As anticipated: Rate} = \text{Flux} \times \text{Number of targets} \times \text{cross section}$$

Cross Section Calculations

- Consider scattering process

$$1 + 2 \rightarrow 3 + 4$$



- Start from Fermi's Golden Rule:

$$\Gamma_{fi} = (2\pi)^4 \int |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 - E_4) \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_4) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_3}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_4}{(2\pi)^3}$$

where T_{fi} is the transition matrix for a normalisation of 1/unit volume

- Now Rate/Volume = (flux of 1) \times (number density of 2) \times σ
- $$= n_1(v_1 + v_2) \times n_2 \times \sigma$$

- For 1 target particle per unit volume Rate = $(v_1 + v_2)\sigma$

$$\sigma = \frac{\Gamma_{fi}}{(v_1 + v_2)}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{v_1 + v_2} \int |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 - E_4) \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_4) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_3}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_4}{(2\pi)^3}$$

the parts are not Lorentz Invariant

- To obtain a Lorentz Invariant form use wave-functions normalised to 2E particles per unit volume

$$\psi' = (2E)^{1/2} \psi$$

- Again define L.I. Matrix element $M_{fi} = (2E_1 2E_2 2E_3 2E_4)^{1/2} T_{fi}$

$$\sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^{-2}}{2E_1 2E_2 (v_1 + v_2)} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 - E_4) \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_4) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_3}{2E_3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_4}{2E_4}$$

- The integral is now written in a Lorentz invariant form

- The quantity $F = 2E_1 2E_2 (v_1 + v_2)$ can be written in terms of a four-vector scalar product and is therefore also Lorentz Invariant (the Lorentz Inv. Flux)

$$F = 4 [(p_1^\mu p_2_\mu)^2 - m_1^2 m_2^2]^{1/2} \quad (\text{see appendix I})$$

- Consequently cross section is a Lorentz Invariant quantity

Two special cases of Lorentz Invariant Flux:

- Centre-of-Mass Frame

$$\begin{aligned} F &= 4E_1 E_2 (v_1 + v_2) \\ &= 4E_1 E_2 (|\vec{p}^*|/E_1 + |\vec{p}^*|/E_2) \\ &= 4|\vec{p}^*|(E_1 + E_2) \\ &= 4|\vec{p}^*|\sqrt{s} \end{aligned}$$

- Target (particle 2) at rest

$$\begin{aligned} F &= 4E_1 E_2 (v_1 + v_2) \\ &= 4E_1 m_2 v_1 \\ &= 4E_1 m_2 (|\vec{p}_1|/E_1) \\ &= 4m_2 |\vec{p}_1| \end{aligned}$$

2→2 Body Scattering in C.o.M. Frame

- We will now apply above Lorentz Invariant formula for the interaction cross section to the most common cases used in the course. First consider 2→2 scattering in C.o.M. frame

- Start from

$$\sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^{-2}}{2E_1 2E_2 (v_1 + v_2)} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_1 + E_2 - E_3 - E_4) \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_3 - \vec{p}_4) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_3}{2E_3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_4}{2E_4}$$

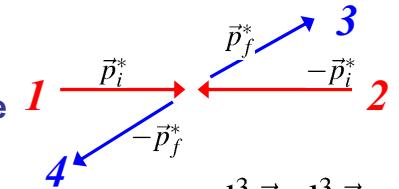
• Here $\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 = 0$ and $E_1 + E_2 = \sqrt{s}$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^{-2}}{4|\vec{p}_i^*| \sqrt{s}} \int |M_{fi}|^2 \delta(\sqrt{s} - E_3 - E_4) \delta^3(\vec{p}_3 + \vec{p}_4) \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_3}{2E_3} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_4}{2E_4}$$

★ The integral is exactly the same integral that appeared in the particle decay calculation but with m_a replaced by \sqrt{s}

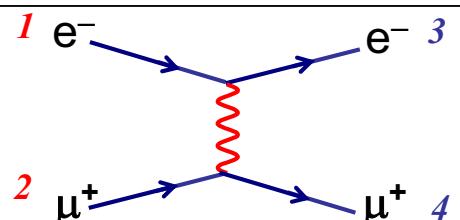
$$\Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{(2\pi)^{-2}}{4|\vec{p}_i^*| \sqrt{s}} \frac{|\vec{p}_f^*|}{4\sqrt{s}} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^*$$

$$\boxed{\sigma = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 s} \frac{|\vec{p}_f^*|}{|\vec{p}_i^*|} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^*}$$



- In the case of elastic scattering $|\vec{p}_i^*| = |\vec{p}_f^*|$

$$\sigma_{\text{elastic}} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 s} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^*$$



- For calculating the total cross-section (which is Lorentz Invariant) the result on the previous page (eq. (4)) is sufficient. However, it is not so useful for calculating the differential cross section in a rest frame other than the C.o.M:

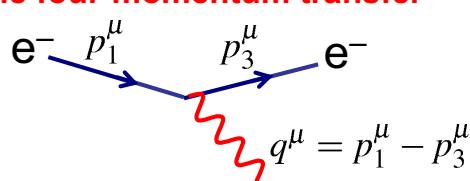
$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 s} \frac{|\vec{p}_f^*|}{|\vec{p}_i^*|} |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^*$$

because the angles in $d\Omega^* = d(\cos \theta^*) d\phi^*$ refer to the C.o.M frame

- For the last calculation in this section, we need to find a L.I. expression for $d\sigma$

- Start by expressing $d\Omega^*$ in terms of Mandelstam t i.e. the square of the four-momentum transfer

$$t = q^2 = (p_1 - p_3)^2$$



Product of
four-vectors
therefore L.I.

- Want to express $d\Omega^*$ in terms of Lorentz Invariant dt
where $t \equiv (p_1 - p_3)^2 = p_1^2 + p_3^2 - 2p_1 \cdot p_3 = m_1^2 + m_3^2 - 2p_1 \cdot p_3$

- In C.o.M. frame:

$$\begin{aligned} p_1^{*\mu} &= (E_1^*, 0, 0, |\vec{p}_1^*|) \\ p_3^{*\mu} &= (E_3^*, |\vec{p}_3^*| \sin \theta^*, 0, |\vec{p}_3^*| \cos \theta^*) \\ p_1^\mu p_{3\mu} &= E_1^* E_3^* - |\vec{p}_1^*| |\vec{p}_3^*| \cos \theta^* \\ t &= m_1^2 + m_3^2 - E_1^* E_3^* + 2|\vec{p}_1^*||\vec{p}_3^*| \cos \theta^* \end{aligned}$$

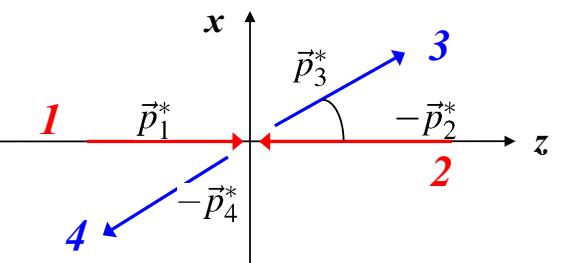
giving $dt = 2|\vec{p}_1^*||\vec{p}_3^*|d(\cos \theta^*)$

therefore $d\Omega^* = d(\cos \theta^*)d\phi^* = \frac{dtd\phi^*}{2|\vec{p}_1^*||\vec{p}_3^*|}$

hence $d\sigma = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 s} \frac{|\vec{p}_3^*|}{|\vec{p}_1^*|} |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^* = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 64\pi^2 s |\vec{p}_1^*|^2} |M_{fi}|^2 d\phi^* dt$

- Finally, integrating over $d\phi^*$ (assuming no ϕ^* dependence of $|M_{fi}|^2$) gives:

$$\boxed{\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{1}{64\pi s |\vec{p}_i^*|^2} |M_{fi}|^2}$$



Lorentz Invariant differential cross section

- All quantities in the expression for $d\sigma/dt$ are Lorentz Invariant and therefore, it applies to any rest frame. It should be noted that $|\vec{p}_i^*|^2$ is a constant, fixed by energy/momentum conservation

$$|\vec{p}_i^*|^2 = \frac{1}{4s} [s - (m_1 + m_2)^2][s - (m_1 - m_2)^2]$$

- As an example of how to use the invariant expression $d\sigma/dt$ we will consider elastic scattering in the laboratory frame in the limit where we can neglect the mass of the incoming particle $E_1 \gg m_1$

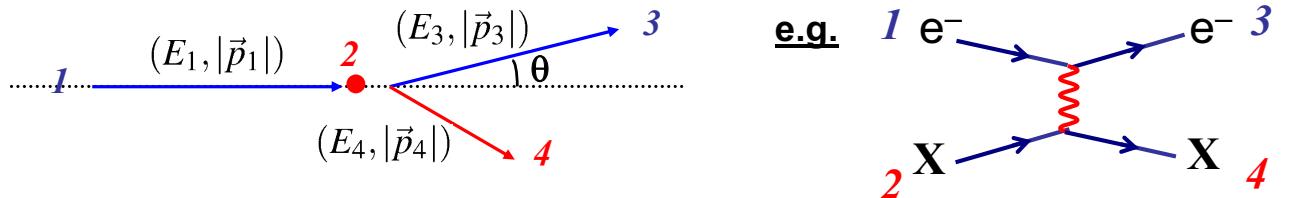
$\xrightarrow{E_1} \bullet$ e.g. electron or neutrino scattering

In this limit $|\vec{p}_i^*|^2 = \frac{(s - m_2)^2}{4s}$

$$\boxed{\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{1}{16\pi(s - m_2^2)^2} |M_{fi}|^2} \quad (m_1 = 0)$$

2→2 Body Scattering in Lab. Frame

- The other commonly occurring case is scattering from a fixed target in the Laboratory Frame (e.g. electron-proton scattering)
- First take the case of elastic scattering at high energy where the mass of the incoming particles can be neglected: $m_1 = m_3 = 0$, $m_2 = m_4 = M$



- Wish to express the cross section in terms of scattering angle of the e^-

$$d\Omega = 2\pi d(\cos \theta)$$

therefore $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{d\sigma}{dt}$

Integrating over $d\phi$

- The rest is some rather tedious algebra.... start from four-momenta

$$p_1 = (E_1, 0, 0, E_1), p_2 = (M, 0, 0, 0), p_3 = (E_3, E_3 \sin \theta, 0, E_3 \cos \theta), p_4 = (E_4, \vec{p}_4)$$

$$\text{so here } t = (p_1 - p_3)^2 = -2p_1 \cdot p_3 = -2E_1 E_3 (1 - \cos \theta)$$

But from (E,p) conservation $p_1 + p_2 = p_3 + p_4$

and, therefore, can also express t in terms of particles 2 and 4

$$\begin{aligned} t &= (p_2 - p_4)^2 = 2M^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_4 = 2M^2 - 2M E_4 \\ &= 2M^2 - 2M(E_1 + M - E_3) = -2M(E_1 - E_3) \end{aligned}$$

Note E_1 is a constant (the energy of the incoming particle) so

$$\frac{dt}{d(\cos \theta)} = 2M \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)}$$

- Equating the two expressions for t gives

$$E_3 = \frac{E_1 M}{M + E_1 - E_1 \cos \theta}$$

so $\frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} = \frac{E_1 M}{(M + E_1 - E_1 \cos \theta)^2} = E_1^2 M \left(\frac{E_3^2}{E_1 M} \right)^2 = \frac{E_3^2}{M}$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{1}{2\pi} 2M \frac{E_3^2}{M} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{E_3^2}{\pi} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{E_3^2}{\pi} \frac{1}{16\pi(s - M^2)^2} |M_{fi}|^2$$

using $s = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = M^2 + 2p_1 \cdot p_2 = M^2 + 2ME_1$

gives $(s - M^2) = 2ME_1$

Particle 1 massless
→ $(p_1^2 = 0)$

→
$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left(\frac{E_3}{ME_1} \right)^2 |M_{fi}|^2$$

In limit $m_1 \rightarrow 0$

In this equation, E_3 is a function of θ :

$$E_3 = \frac{E_1 M}{M + E_1 - E_1 \cos \theta}$$

giving

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{M + E_1 - E_1 \cos \theta} \right)^2 |M_{fi}|^2 \quad (m_1 = 0)$$

General form for 2→2 Body Scattering in Lab. Frame

★ The calculation of the differential cross section for the case where m_1 can not be neglected is longer and contains no more “physics” (see appendix II). It gives:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{p_1 m_1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{p}_3|^2}{|\vec{p}_3|(E_1 + m_2) - E_3 |\vec{p}_1| \cos \theta} \cdot |M_{fi}|^2$$

Again there is only one independent variable, θ , which can be seen from conservation of energy

$$E_1 + m_2 = \sqrt{|\vec{p}_3|^2 + m_3^2} + \sqrt{|\vec{p}_1|^2 + |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 2|\vec{p}_1||\vec{p}_3| \cos \theta + m_4^2}$$

i.e. $|\vec{p}_3|$ is a function of θ

$$\vec{p}_4 = \vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_3$$

Summary

★ Used a Lorentz invariant formulation of Fermi’s Golden Rule to derive decay rates and cross-sections in terms of the **Lorentz Invariant Matrix Element** (wave-functions normalised to 2E/Volume)

Main Results:

★ Particle decay:

$$\Gamma = \frac{|\vec{p}^*|}{32\pi^2 m_i^2} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega$$

Where p^* is a function of particle masses

$$p^* = \frac{1}{2m_i} \sqrt{[(m_i^2 - (m_1 + m_2)^2) [m_i^2 - (m_1 - m_2)^2]]}$$

★ Scattering cross section in C.o.M. frame:

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{64\pi^2 s} \frac{|\vec{p}_f^*|}{|\vec{p}_i^*|} \int |M_{fi}|^2 d\Omega^*$$

★ Invariant differential cross section (valid in all frames):

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{1}{64\pi s |\vec{p}_i^*|^2} |M_{fi}|^2$$

$$|\vec{p}_i^*|^2 = \frac{1}{4s} [s - (m_1 + m_2)^2][s - (m_1 - m_2)^2]$$

Summary cont.

★ Differential cross section in the lab. frame ($m_f=0$)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left(\frac{E_3}{ME_1} \right)^2 |M_{fi}|^2$$



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{M+E_1 - E_1 \cos \theta} \right)^2 |M_{fi}|^2$$

★ Differential cross section in the lab. frame ($m_f \neq 0$)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{|\vec{p}_1|m_1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{p}_3|^2}{|\vec{p}_3|(E_1 + m_2) - E_3|\vec{p}_1|\cos\theta} \cdot |M_{fi}|^2$$

with $E_1 + m_2 = \sqrt{|\vec{p}_3|^2 + m_3^2} + \sqrt{|\vec{p}_1|^2 + |\vec{p}_3|^2 - 2|\vec{p}_1||\vec{p}_3|\cos\theta + m_4^2}$

Summary of the summary:

- ★ Have now dealt with **kinematics** of particle decays and cross sections
- ★ The **fundamental particle physics** is in the **matrix element**
- ★ The above equations are the basis for all calculations that follow

Appendix I : Lorentz Invariant Flux

NON-EXAMINABLE

▪ Collinear collision:

$$a \xrightarrow{v_a, \vec{p}_a} \xleftarrow{v_b, \vec{p}_b} b$$

$$\begin{aligned} F = 2E_a 2E_b (v_a + v_b) &= 4E_a E_b \left(\frac{|\vec{p}_a|}{E_a} + \frac{|\vec{p}_b|}{E_b} \right) \\ &= 4(|\vec{p}_a|E_b + |\vec{p}_b|E_a) \end{aligned}$$

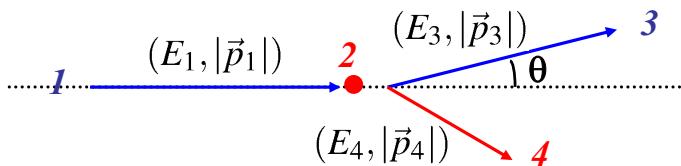
To show this is Lorentz invariant, first consider

$$p_a \cdot p_b = p_a^\mu p_b_\mu = E_a E_b - \vec{p}_a \cdot \vec{p}_b = E_a E_b + |\vec{p}_a| |\vec{p}_b|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Giving } F^2 / 16 - (p_a^\mu p_b_\mu)^2 &= (|\vec{p}_a|E_b + |\vec{p}_b|E_a)^2 - (E_a E_b + |\vec{p}_a| |\vec{p}_b|)^2 \\ &= |\vec{p}_a|^2 (E_b^2 - |\vec{p}_b|^2) + E_a^2 (|\vec{p}_b|^2 - E_b^2) \\ &= |\vec{p}_a|^2 m_b^2 - E_b^2 m_b^2 \\ &= -m_a^2 m_b^2 \\ F &= 4 [(p_a^\mu p_b_\mu)^2 - m_a^2 m_b^2]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Appendix II : general 2→2 Body Scattering in lab frame

NON-EXAMINABLE



$$p_1 = (E_1, 0, 0, |\vec{p}_1|), \quad p_2 = (M, 0, 0, 0), \quad p_3 = (E_3, E_3 \sin \theta, 0, E_3 \cos \theta), \quad p_4 = (E_4, \vec{p}_4)$$

again

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{d\sigma}{dt} \frac{dt}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{dt}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{d\sigma}{dt}$$

But now the invariant quantity t :

$$\begin{aligned} t &= (p_2 - p_4)^2 = m_2^2 + m_4^2 - 2p_2 \cdot p_4 = m_2^2 + m_4^2 - 2m_2 E_4 \\ &= m_2^2 + m_4^2 - 2m_2 (E_1 + m_2 - E_3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{dt}{d(\cos \theta)} = 2m_2 \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)}$$

Which gives $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{m_2}{\pi} \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{d\sigma}{dt}$

To determine $dE_3/d(\cos \theta)$, first differentiate $E_3^2 + |\vec{p}_3|^2 = m_3^2$

$$2E_3 \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} = 2|\vec{p}_3| \frac{d|\vec{p}_3|}{d(\cos \theta)} \quad (\text{All.1})$$

Then equate $t = (p_1 - p_3)^2 = (p_4 - p_2)^2$ to give

$$m_1^2 + m_3^2 - 2(E_1 E_3 - |\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_3| \cos \theta) = m_2^2 + m_4^2 - 2m_2 (E_1 + m_2 - E_3)$$

Differentiate wrt. $\cos \theta$

$$(E_1 + m_2) \frac{dE_3}{d\cos \theta} - |\vec{p}_1| \cos \theta \frac{d|\vec{p}_3|}{d\cos \theta} = |\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_3|$$

Using (1) $\rightarrow \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} = \frac{|\vec{p}_1| |\vec{p}_3|^2}{|\vec{p}_3| (E_1 + m_2) - E_3 |\vec{p}_1| \cos \theta} \quad (\text{All.2})$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{m_2}{\pi} \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{d\sigma}{dt} = \frac{m_2}{\pi} \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos \theta)} \frac{1}{64\pi s |\vec{p}_i^*|^2} |M_{fi}|^2$$

It is easy to show $|\vec{p}_i^*| \sqrt{s} = m_2 |\vec{p}_1|$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{dE_3}{d(\cos\theta)} \frac{m_2}{64\pi^2 m_2^2 |\vec{p}_1|^2} |M_{fi}|^2$$

and using (All.2) obtain

$$\boxed{\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{1}{64\pi^2} \cdot \frac{1}{p_1 m_1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{p}_3|^2}{|\vec{p}_3|(E_1 + m_2) - E_3 |\vec{p}_1| \cos\theta} \cdot |M_{fi}|^2}$$